

09787173-051401

1. (Amended) A wood working tool comprising a cutting tool, a carrier and guide means for moving the carrier past the cutting tool on a predetermined, but transversely variable path, whereby timber carried by the carrier can be cut reproducibly to size.

4. (Amended) A wood working tool as claimed in claim 2, wherein the guide devices have an outer sleeve located on an inner post by way of bearings so the sleeve is rotatable with respect to the post.

5. (Amended) A wood working tool as claimed in claim 2, wherein the guide devices can be spaced at different distances apart depending on the radius of curvature being cut.

6. (Amended) A wood working tool as claimed in claim 1, wherein the carrier comprises a body member on which the material to be cut can be located, and further comprising clamp means being associated with the body member whereby the material to be cut can be retained against movement relative to the carrier.

9. (Amended) A wood working tool as claimed in claim 7, by controlling the position of the beam, the required location for the material to be cut is achieved.

10. (Amended) A wood working tool as claimed in claim 7, wherein there is a stop member against which the material

to be cut be butted so that it is correctly located for cutting.

11. (Amended) A wood working tool as claimed in claim 1, wherein an edge of the carrier is directed towards the cutting tool and shaped to the same shape as the required cut, so that the material being cut is supported close to the position of the cut being made.

12. (Amended) A wood working tool as claimed in claim 1, wherein when several members are to be cut from one sheet of material, the material can be moved transversely relative to the blade automatically after completion of a cut and the return on the carrier to its initial position.

15. (Amended) A method for forming, or working, complex shapes of wood or similar materials, comprising the steps of mounting material onto a carrier, and associating the carrier with guide means so that on longitudinal movement of the carrier, the guide means will transversely move the carrier, the carrier and guide means being associated with a tool, so that the movement of the carrier is reflected by operation of the tool on the material.

17. (Amended) A method according to claim 15, wherein the tool is a bandsaw and wherein the material on the carrier is cut by the bandsaw to a shape which corresponds to the shape of the guide means.

09787178.051401

18. (Amended) A method according to claim 15, wherein the side of the carrier adjacent the saw blade has substantially the same shape as required for the final cut material, so that the material before cutting is supported adjacent the point of cut.

19. (Amended) A method according to claim 15, wherein clamp means are associated with the carrier, the clamp means permitting movement of the material transversely of the carrier, so that a number of cuts can be made from a single piece of material.

REMARKS

Prior to an examination on the merits of the above-identified patent application, please enter the foregoing amendments.

Claims 1-13 and 15-20 are now pending in the above-identified patent application, as presented by the instant Preliminary Amendment. Claim 1 and 15 are presented in independent form.

The present application represents the U.S. National Phase of P.C.T. Application No. PCT/AU99/00776, filed September 14, 1999, and claiming foreign priority on the basis of a corresponding Australian patent application, filed September 14, 1998.